

Thus the internal force and the external force, each working for the same end, finally reached the crystallization point of a great school for the higher education of the race, by the race.

So to the Negro himself really belongs the credit of beginning the education of his people; to Ohio belongs the honor of being the mother of its first school, and to Oberlin College much is owed for the upbuilding of the university from its opening in 1856 to the present moment through a splendid galaxy of instructors — men and women, white and colored — from that college which first opened the doors of higher education to the race.

The crisis was passed and victory seemed secure when within two years \$7,500 of the debt had been paid. On the day Lincoln was assassinated, April 14, 1865, incendiary hands laid the main building in ashes. A fine brick building, "Shorter Hall," was erected soon, at a cost of \$40,000.

National and State Coöperation

Congress and the Freedman's Bureau made appropriations for the school relief. Chief Justice Chase bequeathed it \$10,000, as did the Avery estate. The American Unitarian Association provided funds annually for several years for courses of lectures given by the professors of Antioch College. Friends from all classes gave some assistance, and colored men and women laid down their offerings for its use in sums ranging from \$5 to \$1,000. It has been its boast and pride that a large amount of self-help has gone to build up the university.

In 1887 the legislature of Ohio had such confidence in Wilberforce as an educational factor, with a large field of usefulness, that it made and still continues an annual appropriation of \$17,500 for the support of a normal and industrial department. The general government, during President Cleveland's administration, organized a military department, and a Negro West Point graduate, Lieut. John H. Alexander, was appointed in charge. Wilberforce University is the only negro school thus recognized and maintained by the United States government. Upon the death of Lieutenant Alexander, another negro West Point graduate, Lieut. Chas. Young, was detailed to the school; and



GALLOWAY HALL, WILBERFORCE UNIVERSITY

The oldest university for Negroes in this country. Founded by the Cincinnati Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the African Methodist Episcopal Conference of Ohio. Congress in 1870 appropriated \$25,000 to the University; Chief Justice Chase and other friends added \$26,000. The approximate requirement for annual expenses is \$40,000, of which the state of Ohio appropriates \$17,500. The University owns 350 acres of land and 10 buildings, the property is valued at \$350,000. Endowment fund, \$34,000.

when the Spanish War broke out he went to the front, taking with him a large number of students who fought with honor for the flag in Cuba and the Philippines, while the military work in the school was most creditably carried on by advanced students.

The University Equipment and Work

The university began with 52 acres of land, 1 main building, a few small cottages, a primary department of instruction, 2 teachers, and a handful of students. To-day, the united schools in operation, aside from military, are the college, the theological seminary, and a normal and industrial department, instructing in 10 well-equipped industries. It has 350 acres of the best land in Ohio; 10 brick buildings, including 4 halls; a \$60,000 trades building; a Carnegie library costing \$18,000; 2 farm houses and 9 frame cottages for teachers and employees. The value of the entire plant with equipment is \$350,000. There are 32 teachers and an average of 400 students. One thousand students have graduated from its literary and industrial courses and are now engaged in uplifting the race in all parts of this